

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**#8/B  
12 Cooper  
10-18-02  
(ne)In Re: Flanders, *et al.*

Serial No: 09/757,856

Group: 3742

Filed: January 11, 2001

Examiner: Jeffery, John A.

For: Method and System for Feedback Control of  
Optical Fiber Lens Fusing**AMENDMENT WITH REQUEST FOR  
CONTINUED EXAMINATION UNDER RULE 114**Assistant Commission for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In the above-captioned patent application and in response to the pending final Office Action, mailed April 17, 2002, a Request for Continued Examination is hereby made. Accordingly, entry of the following amendments and reconsideration are requested in view of the subsequent remarks.

**In the Claims:***Please add new claims 16 and 17, as follows:*

16. (new) A method for fusing an optical fiber lens, comprising:
- injecting light into an optical fiber;
  - detecting an aspect ratio of a diffraction pattern of the light exiting from a fiber lens at a proximal end of the optical fiber by positioning a two-dimensional detector optically in front of the fiber lens; and
  - electro-fusing the fiber lens in response to the aspect ratio of the diffraction pattern by exposing the fiber lens to an electrical arc until an optimal aspect ratio is detected.